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PROGRAMME OF MEETINGS AND AGENDA

SCHEDULED MEETINGS

Friday, 13 November 1998

SECURITY COUNCIL

11 a.m.	consultations of the whole (closed)	Consultation Room

The situation between Eritrea and Ethiopia

Briefing by Ambassador Mohammed Sahnoun, Special Envoy of the Secretary-General in Africa

Other matters

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Fifty-third session

AD HOC COMMITTEE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FOR THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE 1999 PROGRAMMES OF THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES

10 a.m.-1 p.m.	1st meeting	Conference Room 4

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Fifty-third session

INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS

Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance (item 20)

3 p.m.	closed meeting	Economic and Social Council Chamber

Informal consultations on draft proposals under item 20 and its sub-items conducted by H.E. Mr. Jørgen Bøjer (Denmark)

Committees

FIRST COMMITTEE

10 a.m.-1 p.m.	30th meeting	Conference Room 2
3 p.m.-6 p.m.	31st meeting	Conference Room 2

Action on all draft resolutions submitted under agenda items 63 to 80

[Documents of the First Committee (A/C.1/53/INF.1)]

SECOND COMMITTEE

10 a.m.-11.30 a.m.	informal consultations (closed)	Conference Room 6

Informal consultations, under the Chairmanship of Mr. Özügergin (Turkey), Vice-Chairman of the Committee, on the following draft resolutions: A/C.2/53/L.31 (Revitalization of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) (item 93 (c)); A/C.2/53/L.32 (UNITAR) (item 96 (b)); A/C.2/53/L.33 (Implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development) (item 93 (f))

11.30 a.m.-1 p.m.	informal consultations (closed)	Conference Room 6

Informal consultations, under the Chairmanship of Mr. Odyek Agona (Uganda, Vice-Chairman of the Committee, on the following draft resolutions: A/C.2/53/L.16 (Implementation of the United Nations Convention on Desertification) (item 94 (e)); A/C.2/53/L.37 (Proclamation of international years) (item 12); A/C.2/53/L.38 (Proclamation of the year 2002 as the International Year of Ecotourism) (item 12)

SPECIAL POLITICAL AND DECOLONIZATION COMMITTEE (FOURTH COMMITTEE)

3 p.m.	19th meeting	Conference Room 4

Questions relating to information [86] (A/53/21, A/53/509)

General debate

THIRD COMMITTEE

3 p.m.- 6 p.m.	46th meeting	Conference Room 1

1. Implementation of the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women [104]

   Introduction of draft resolution A/C.3/53/L.27

2. Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees: questions relating to refugees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions [105]

   Introduction of draft resolutions A/C.3/53/L.30 and L.31

3. Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms [110 (b)]

   Introduction of draft resolution A/C.3/53/L.33

4. Human rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs and representatives [110 (c)]

   Introduction of draft resolution A/C.3/53/L.34

5. Promotion and protection of the rights of children [106]

   Action on draft resolution A/C.3/53/L.14/Rev.1

6. Elimination of racism and racial discrimination [108]

   Action on draft resolutions A/C.3/53/L.24 and L.25

7. Human rights questions: implementation of human rights instruments [110 (a)]

   Action on draft resolution A/C.3/53/L.21

FIFTH COMMITTEE

10 a.m.	26th meeting	Conference Room 3

1. Human resources management [119] (A/53/642, A/53/501, A/C.5/52/2, A/52/814, A/53/266, A/53/327, A/53/342, A/53/375 and Corr.1 and Corr.2 (French only), A/53/385, A/53/414, A/53/502, A/53/526 and Add.1, A/53/548 and A/C.5/53/L.3)

   Introduction and continuation of general discussion

2. Report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Office of Internal Oversight Services [144] (A/51/432, A/51/530 and Corr.1, A/51/801, A/52/426, A/52/464 and A/53/428)

   Conclusion of general discussion

3. Programme budget for the biennium 1998-1999 [113]

   Office accommodation at the Palais Wilson (A/53/302)

   Action on oral draft proposal by the Chairman

Morning*- 1 p.m.	informal consultations (closed)	Conference Room 5

Informal consultations on agenda item 165 (Joint Inspection Unit (A/51/34, A/51/559 and Corr.1, A/52/34, A/52/206, A/52/267 and A/53/180))

3 p.m.- 5 p.m.	informal consultations (closed)	Conference Room 5

Informal consultations of agenda item 120 (United Nations common system (A/53/30 and Corr.1, A/52/811, A/C.5/53/4 and A/C.5/53/27))

5 p.m.- 6 p.m.	informal consultations (closed)	Conference Room 5

Conclusion of informal consultations on agenda item 118 (Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations (A/53/11, A/C.5/53/23, A/C.5/53/24 and A/C.5/53/28)

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* Following the adjournment of the 26th meeting of the Fifth Committee.

SIXTH COMMITTEE

10 a.m.- 12 noon	informal consultations (closed)	Conference Room 7

Informal consultations on draft resolution A/C.6/53/L.5* submitted under agenda item 149 (c) (United Nations Decade of International Law: Draft guiding principles for international negotiations)

12 noon- 1 p.m.	informal consultations (closed)	Conference Room 7

Informal consultations on draft resolution A/C.6/53/L.3 submitted under agenda item 154 (Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization)

3 p.m.	29th meeting	Trusteeship Council Chamber

Status of the Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and relating to the protection of victims of armed conflicts [146] (A/53/287)

Afternoon*-6 p.m.	informal consultations (closed)	Trusteeship Council Chamber

Informal consultations on the draft resolution submitted under agenda item 155 (Measures to eliminate international terrorism)

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* Following the adjournment of the 29th meeting of the Sixth Committee.

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ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY QUESTIONS

10.30 a.m.-1 p.m.	closed meeting	Conference Room 10
3 p.m.-6 p.m.	closed meeting	Conference Room 10

Subjects

1. Draft report (Publications)
2. Draft report (Oversight)
3. Executive session on the Integrated Management Information System (IMIS)
4. Executive session on: internal vacancies in the Secretariat; employment of retirees; consultants and individual contractors; and comprehensive guidelines for the use of consultants in the Secretariat
5. Executive session on the impact of the implementation of pilot projects on the budgetary practices and procedures
6. Executive session on procurement reform

UNITED NATIONS ADMINISTRATIVE TRIBUNAL

10.30 a.m.-1 p.m.	closed meeting	Room DC2-469
2.30 p.m.-6 p.m.	closed meeting	Room DC2-469

MEETINGS OTHER THAN MEETINGS OF UNITED NATIONS BODIES

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Friday, 13 November 1998

CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY

10 a.m.-1 p.m.	closed meeting	Conference Room A

* * *

Informal consultations

There will be informal consultations on the draft resolution under agenda item 38 (b) (Large-scale pelagic drift-net fishing, unauthorized fishing in zones of national jurisdiction and on the high seas, fisheries by-catch and discards, and other developments) *today*, 13 November 1998, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Economic and Social Council Chamber.

GROUP OF 77 OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE
(on environmental issues)

1.45 p.m.-2.45 p.m.	closed meeting	Conference Room 7

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Special event

The Department of Public Information will inaugurate United Nations websites in Arabic and Chinese at the conclusion of the 19th meeting of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) *today*, 13 November 1998, at 5 p.m. in Conference Room 4. Members of permanent missions, Secretariat staff, representatives of non-governmental organizations and the media are invited to attend.

MOVEMENT OF NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES:

WORKING GROUP ON HUMAN RIGHTS

3 p.m.-6 p.m.	closed meeting	Conference Room E

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Announcement

As from Wednesday, 4 November 1998, and for the rest of the month, the Presidency of the Security Council will conduct informal briefings on the current work of the Council for Member States of the United Nations which are non-members of the Council daily, except on days on which no informal consultations are scheduled. The briefings will take place at 1.15 p m., or shortly after the adjournment of the informal consultations, in the Press Briefing Room (S-226).

MOVEMENT OF NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES:

WORKING GROUP ON THE RESTRUCTURING OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

5 p.m.-6 p.m.	closed meeting	Conference Room A

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

Monday, 16 November 1998

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Fifty-third session

10 a.m.	58th PLENARY MEETING	General Assembly Hall
3 p.m.	59th PLENARY MEETING	General Assembly Hall

Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance: report of the Secretary-General (A/53/501) [20]:

(a) Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations: report of the Secretary-General (A/53/139) [20 (a)].

(b) Special economic assistance to individual countries or regions [20 (b)]:

(i) Reports of the Secretary-General (A/53/157, A/53/213, A/53/291, A/53/292, A/53/307, A/53/316, A/53/330, A/53/344, A/53/359, A/53/361, A/53/377, A/53/424, A/53/538);

(ii) Draft resolutions (A/53/L.26/Rev.1, L.27, L.29*, L.30*, L.31*, L.32*, L.33*);

(c) Emergency international assistance for peace, normalcy and reconstruction of war-stricken Afghanistan: report of the Secretary-General (A/53/346) [20 (c)].

(d) Assistance to the Palestinian people: report of the Secretary-General (A/53/153) [20 (d)].

* To be issued.

Committees

SPECIAL POLITICAL AND DECOLONIZATION COMMITTEE (FOURTH COMMITTEE)

3 p.m.	20th meeting	Conference Room 2

SECOND COMMITTEE

10 a.m.	39th meeting	Conference Room 2
Morning*	informal consultations (closed)	Conference Room 6
3 p.m.	informal consultations (closed)	Conference Room 6

* Following the adjournment of the 39th meeting of the Second Committee.

THIRD COMMITTEE

10 a.m.	48th meeting	Conference Room 1
3 p.m.	49th meeting	Conference Room 1

FIFTH COMMITTEE

10 a.m.	27th meeting	Conference Room 3
Morning*	informal consultations (closed)	Conference Room 5
3 p.m.	informal consultations (closed)	Conference Room 5

* Following the adjournment of the 27th meeting of the Fifth Committee.

SIXTH COMMITTEE

10 a.m.	30th meeting	Trusteeship Council Chamber
3 p.m.	31st meeting	Trusteeship Council Chamber

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ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY QUESTIONS

10.30 a.m.	closed meeting	Conference Room 10
3 p.m.	closed meeting	Conference Room 10

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The 195th meeting of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country will be convened on Monday, 16 November 1998, at 10.30 a.m. in Conference Room 8. The provisional agenda for the meeting will include the following items: (a) Security of missions and the safety of their personnel; (b) Other matters. The meeting will be open to observers. Delegations are reminded that while any matter pertinent to the work of the Committee could be raised from the floor, they are encouraged, in accordance with the decision of the Committee adopted at its 164th meeting in March 1994, to request the formal inscription, at least 48 hours prior to the meeting, of other special items they would like to raise, keeping in mind the detailed list of topics adopted by the Committee in 1982 (see document A/50/46, paragraph 5). Delegations are further encouraged to submit to the Chairman of the Committee or to its Secretary (room S-3420D; fax: 963-6430) any relevant documentation or written statements in advance of the meeting.

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ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

The Bureau of the Commission on the Status of Women invites delegations to propose names for panellists to participate in the session of the Commission acting as preparatory body for the high-level plenary review in the year 2000 (March 1999). Delegations are kindly requested to submit names and curricula vitae to the Division for the Advancement of Women (room DC2-1216), *no later than* Monday, 16 November 1998.

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Convention to Combat Desertification

CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES
Second session

List of speakers

The second session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention to Combat Desertification will take place in Dakar, Senegal, from 30 November to 11 December 1998. The special segment on ways and means by which the Conference of the Parties could promote timely and effective implementation of the Convention will be held on 8 and 9 December 1998. Statements at this segment will be open to Parties and observers with representation at the appropriate level.

It is suggested that the average time for each statement should not exceed 6 minutes.

A list of speakers will also be open in Dakar on Monday, 30 November, for other statements by Parties and observers in the Plenary during the first week of the session.

The list of speakers for the special segment or for the first week of the session will be open in New York on Monday, 16 November 1998. Delegations wishing to inscribe on the list of speakers for this segment are requested to contact the office of the Secretary of the Conference of the Parties (Ms. June Chesney, tel.: (212) 963-5742, fax: (212) 963-5935).

MEETINGS OTHER THAN MEETINGS OF UNITED NATIONS BODIES

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There will be a meeting of the Arab Group *(at the ambassadorial level)* on Monday, 16 November 1998, at 11 a.m. in Conference Room 7.

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There will be meetings of the Group of 77 *(on a brainstorming session on desertification)* on Wednesday, 18 November 1998, at 10 a.m. in Conference Room 7, and at 3 p.m. in Conference Room 8.

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There will be a meeting of the Group of 77 *(on the forty-third session of the Commission on the Status of Women (organization of work))* on Monday, 23 November 1998, at 10 a.m. in Conference Room 7

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Seminar

A seminar on Japan's financial crisis and the collapse of the main bank myth, organized by the Development Policy Analysis Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, will take place on Monday, 16 November 1998, at 11 a.m. in Room DC2-2127. The seminar will be conducted by Dr. Mark Scher, DESA. All interested members of delegations and Secretariat staff are invited to attend. Queries: Mr. Henk-Jan Brinkman (tel.: 963-4742).

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Informal presentations

There will be an informal presentation on the theme "Development and Human Rights: A View from the World Bank", in response to the Third Committee's debate on agenda item 110 (Human rights questions), with particular focus on the right to development, by Mr. Louis Forget, Legal Adviser on Institutional Affairs (World Bank). The presentation, organized by the World Bank, will be held on Monday, 16 November 1998, from 1.30 p.m. to 2.45 p.m. in Conference Room 7.

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There will be an informal presentation on international cooperation and coordination for the human and ecological rehabilitation and economic development of the Semipalatinsk region of Kazakhstan. The presentation, organized by the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Kazakhstan and the Women's Environment and Development Organization, will be held on Monday, 16 November 1998, from 6.30 p.m. to 8 p.m. in the Dag Hammarskjöld Library Auditorium. All interested members of delegations and Secretariat staff are invited to attend.

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There will be an informal presentation on the theme "Governance, Public Management and Regime of Law in Developing and Transitional Countries" by Prof. Klaus König, German University for Administrative Sciences. The presentation, organized by the Division of Public Economics and Public Administration of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, will be held on Tuesday, 17 November 1998, at 10.30 a.m. in Conference Room A. All interested delegations and Secretariat staff are invited to attend.

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Panel discussion

In conjunction with agenda item 20 (Strengthening of the cooperation of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance), there will be a panel discussion on the human, ecological and economic problems and needs of the Semipalatinsk region of Kazakhstan, sponsored by the Permanent Mission of Kazakhstan and UNDP Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States, on Monday, 16 November 1998, from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. in Conference Room 8. The main speaker will be H.E. Mr. Serikbek Daukeev, Minister of Ecology of Kazakhstan. All interested members of delegations and Secretariat staff are invited to attend.

* * *

Informal meetings

There will be an informal meeting, organized by the delegation of Canada, in collaboration with the Department of Disarmament Affairs and the Mine Action Service, Office of Planning and Support, Department of Peacekeeping Operations, for all States parties and signatory States to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and their Destruction, to discuss and review a draft of Article 7 (Transparency measures). The meeting will take place on Tuesday, 17 November 1998, at 3 p.m. in Conference Room C.

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There will be an informal meeting on the World Conference on Racism, organized by the International NGO Committee on Human Rights, on Wednesday, 18 November 1998, from 1.15 p.m. to 2.45 p.m. in Conference Room A. The panellists include Mrs. Elsa Stamatopoulou, Deputy Director, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, New York, and Mrs. Mwila Grace Banda Chigaga, Counsellor, Permanent Mission of the Republic of Zambia to the United Nations. Members of permanent missions, Secretariat staff and representatives of non-governmental organizations are invited to attend.

SUMMARY OF MEETINGS

Thursday, 12 November 1998

SECURITY COUNCIL

3943rd meeting

The situation in Tajikistan and along the Tajik-Afghan border

Report of the Secretary-General on the situation in Tajikistan (S/1998/1029)

The agenda was adopted without objection.

The President, with the consent of the Council, invited the representative of Tajikistan, at his request, to participate in the discussion of the item without the right to vote, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter and rule 37 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure.

The President drew attention to the text of a draft resolution contained in document S/1998/1063, which had been prepared in the course of the Council's prior consultations.

The Council began its consideration of the item and heard a statement by the representative of Tajikistan.

The Council then proceeded to the vote on the draft resolution before it (S/1998/1063).

Decision: The draft resolution (S/1998/1063) received 15 votes in favour, none against and no abstentions, and was adopted unanimously as resolution 1206 (1998).

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Fifty-third session

56th plenary meeting

Election to fill vacancies in principal organs: election of eighteen members of the Economic and Social Council [15 (b)]

On the first round of balloting, having obtained the required two-thirds majority, Bolivia, Canada, China, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, Indonesia, Morocco, Norway, Rwanda, the Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, the Syrian Arab Republic, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Venezuela were elected members of the Economic and Social Council for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 1999.

The Assembly decided, on a proposal by the President, to postpone to the afternoon the balloting for two seats from among the Eastern European States.

57th plenary meeting

Elections to fill vacancies in principal organs: election of eighteen members of the Economic and Social Council [15 (b)]

Since two seats from among the Eastern European States remained to be filled, the General Assembly proceeded, in accordance with rule 94 of the rules of procedure, to a second round of balloting (first restricted ballot).

The results of the second round of balloting (first restricted ballot) were as follows:

	Votes
Bulgaria	107
Czech Republic	85
Republic of Moldova	67
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	60

As none of these countries had obtained the required majority, the Assembly proceeded, in accordance with rule 94 of the rules of procedure, to a third round of balloting (second restricted ballot).

The results of the third round of balloting (second restricted ballot) were as follows:

	Votes
Bulgaria	128
Czech Republic	109
Republic of Moldova	54
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	30

On the third round of balloting (second restricted ballot), having obtained the required two-thirds majority, Bulgaria was elected a member of the Economic and Social Council for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 1999.

Since one seat from among the Eastern European States remained to be filled, the Assembly proceeded, in accordance with rule 94 of the rules of procedure, to a fourth round of balloting (third restricted ballot).

The results of the fourth round of balloting (third restricted ballot) were as follows:

	Votes
Czech Republic	117
Republic of Moldova	38

On the fourth round of balloting (third restricted ballot), having obtained the required two thirds majority, the Czech Republic was elected a member of the Economic and Social Council for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 1999.

The following eighteen States were elected members of the Economic and Social Council for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 1999: Bolivia, Bulgaria, Canada, China, the Czech Republic, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, Indonesia, Morocco, Norway, Rwanda, the Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, the Syrian Arab Republic, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Venezuela.

The Assembly thus concluded its consideration of sub-item (b) of agenda item 15.

Programme of work

The General Assembly was informed that agenda item 30 (United Nations reform: measures and proposals), originally scheduled for the afternoon of Wednesday, 18 November 1998, would be taken up on Monday morning, 23 November 1998, as the second item.

Committees

FIRST COMMITTEE 28th meeting

The representatives of Algeria, Japan, Jordan, Mexico, Oman, Pakistan, South Africa and the Syrian Arab Republic made statements on organizational matters.

The representative of the United States introduced revised draft resolution A/C.1/53/L.49/Rev.1.

The Committee took action on the draft resolutions before it.

Draft resolution A/C.1/53/L.49/Rev.1 was adopted by 136 votes to none, with 8 abstentions.

Draft resolution A/C.1/53/L.4/Rev.1 was adopted without a vote.

29th meeting

The representative of India introduced draft resolutions A/C.1/53/L.55, L.57 and L.58 (amendments to A/C.1/53/L.22).

The representative of Pakistan introduced draft resolution A/C.1/53/L.56 (amendment to A/C.1/53/L.22).

The representative of Pakistan introduced, also on behalf of India, draft resolution A/C.1/53/L.61 (amendment to A/C.1/53/L.22).

The representative of Zimbabwe introduced, also on behalf of Nigeria and Zambia, draft resolution A/C.1/53/L.62 (amendment to A/C.1/53/L.22).

The Committee took action on the draft resolutions before it.

A motion of no action on draft resolution A/C.1/53/L.52 was adopted by 63 votes to 60, with 13 abstentions.

The representative of India withdrew draft resolutions A/C.1/53/L.55 and L.57.

A motion of no action on draft resolution A/C.1/53/L.56 was adopted by 62 votes to 51, with 18 abstentions.

A motion of no action on draft resolution A/C.1/53/L.58 was adopted by 60 votes to 49, with 21 abstentions.

The representative of Pakistan, also on behalf of India, withdrew draft resolution A/C.1/53/L.61.

A motion of no action on draft resolution A/C.1/53/L.62 was adopted by 59 votes to 57, with 17 abstentions.

Draft resolution A/C.1/53/L.22 was adopted by 98 votes to 6, with 31 abstentions.

SECOND COMMITTEE 38th meeting

Report of the Economic and Social Council [12]

Introduction of draft resolution A/C.2/53/L.37

The Committee resumed consideration of the item.

The representative of the Russian Federation introduced the draft resolution.

Introduction of draft resolution A/C.2/53/L.38

The representative of Indonesia introduced the draft resolution, on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

Sustainable development and international economic cooperation [93]

(d) Renewal of the dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership

Introduction of draft resolution A/C.2/53/L.36

The Committee resumed consideration of the item.

The representative of Indonesia introduced the draft resolution, on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

(g) Cultural development

Introduction of draft resolution A/C.2/53/L.35

The Committee resumed consideration of the item.

The representative of Uruguay introduced the draft resolution, on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

Organization of work

The Chairman informed the Committee that action would be taken on Monday, 16 November, in the morning, on draft resolutions A/C.2/53/L.22, A/C.2/53/L.23 and A/C.2/53/L.24/Rev.1.

The representatives of Belarus and Poland informed the Committee that their delegations wished to co-sponsor draft resolution A/C.2/53/L.34.

The representative of Norway informed the Committee that her delegation wished to co-sponsor draft resolution A/C.2/53/L.23.

The representative of Kazakhstan informed the Committee that the Islamic Republic of Iran, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Turkmenistan had joined in sponsoring draft resolution A/C.2/53/L.34.

THIRD COMMITTEE 44th meeting

Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees: questions relating to refugees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions [105]

The Committee continued its consideration of the item and heard statements by the representatives of New Zealand, Croatia, Egypt, Benin, Senegal, Ukraine, the Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation and Pakistan.

Statements were also made by the representative of the World Food Programme and by the observer for the International Committee of the Red Cross.

45th meeting

The Committee continued its consideration of agenda item 105 and heard statements by the representatives of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Georgia, Guinea, Liechtenstein, Belarus, Kenya, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Armenia, Ethiopia, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Venezuela, India and Algeria.

A statement was also made by the observer for the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies.

The Director of the New York Liaison Office of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees made concluding remarks.

The Committee thus concluded its general discussion of item 105.

Right of reply

Statements in the exercise of the right of reply were made by the representatives of Eritrea, Morocco, Ethiopia and Algeria.

FIFTH COMMITTEE 25th meeting

Programme budget for the biennium 1998-1999 [113]

The Committee resumed its consideration of this agenda item.

Office accommodation at the Palais Wilson

The Director of the Programme Planning and Budget Division introduced the report of the Secretary-General (A/53/302).

The Chairman of the Committee proposed that the Committee take note of the report of the Secretary-General on a cost-benefit analysis on the use of existing conference facilities available at the Palais Wilson at Geneva (A/53/302).

The representative of Cuba made a statement.

Following a statement by the representative of Cuba, the Chairman informed the Committee that action on the draft decision he had proposed would be taken at a later stage.

Financial arrangements associated with the dining room at the International Court of Justice

The Director of the Programme Planning and Budget Division introduced the report of the Secretary-General (A/C.5/53/19).

The representative of the United States made a statement.

The Chairman then informed the Committee that it would revert to this question following informal consultations.

Construction of additional conference facilities at Addis Ababa and Bangkok

The Director of the Programme Planning and Budget Division introduced the reports of the Secretary-General (A/52/579 and A/53/347).

The related report of the Advisory Committee for Administrative and Budgetary Questions was contained in document A/53/7/Add.5.

The representative of the United States made a statement.

The Director of the Programme Planning and Budget Division responded to a question posed.

On the proposal of the Chairman, the Committee decided, without a vote, to take note of the report of the Secretary-General on the annual progress report of the Secretary-General on the construction of conference facilities at Addis Ababa and Bangkok, contained in documents A/52/579 and A/53/347, and to endorse the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions contained in paragraph 5 of its report (A/53/7/Add.5).

The Committee thus concluded its consideration of this question.

Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Sierra Leone [163]

The Committee began its consideration of this agenda item.

The Director of the Peacekeeping Financing Division introduced the report of the Secretary-General (A/53/454).

The related report of the Advisory Committee for Administrative and Budgetary Questions was contained in document A/53/654.

The Committee thus concluded its general discussion on this agenda item.

The Chairman informed the Committee that informal consultations on this agenda item would begin on Monday, 16 November, in the morning, following the adjournment of the formal meeting, under the chairmanship of Mrs. Gabrielle Duschner (Canada).

Report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Office of Internal Oversight Services [144]

The Committee resumed its consideration of this agenda item.

Statements were made by the representatives of the Russian Federation, Norway, the Republic of Korea, Cuba and Iraq.

Other matters

The representatives of Cuba, Panama and Pakistan made statements regarding their request for a report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the report of the Secretary-General contained in document A/53/414. The representative of Panama also referred to the reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on documents A/53/526, A/53/385, A/53/548 and A/53/327.

The representative of Costa Rica made a statement regarding security procedures at Headquarters and of the management of facilities at United Nations Headquarters.

The representative of Pakistan made a statement regarding the pending report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on annex II of the report of the Secretary-General (A/52/1009).

The Secretary of the Committee responded to questions posed.

Following a statement by the representative of Algeria and on the proposal of the Chairman, the Committee decided, to request the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions to consider the report of the Secretary-General on human resources management reform (A/53/414).

The Secretary of the Committee informed the Committee that the reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions regarding documents A/53/327, A/53/385, A/53/526 and A/53/548 would be issued shortly.

SIXTH COMMITTEE 27th and 28th meetings

Measures to eliminate international terrorism [155]

Statements were made by the representatives of Costa Rica, India, Israel, Mexico, New Zealand, Croatia, Indonesia, the Philippines, the United States, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Egypt, Hungary, the Niger, Kazakhstan, Cuba, Poland, Brazil, Uganda, Sri Lanka, Uruguay, Ukraine, Australia, Japan, Haiti, Angola and the Syrian Arab Republic.

Right of reply

The representatives of the Sudan, the United States, Israel and the Syrian Arab Republic made statements in the exercise of the right of reply.

The Chairman of the Committee made a statement.

Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization. [154]

Introduction of draft resolution A/C.6/53/L.6/Rev.1.

The representative of Egypt introduced revised draft resolution A/C.6/53/L.6/Rev.1.

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COMMITTEE ON THE EXERCISE
OF THE INALIENABLE RIGHTS
OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE 241st meeting

Consideration of draft resolutions on Bethlehem 2000 and the question of Palestine

The representative of Afghanistan (Acting Chairman) opened the meeting and introduced draft resolutions on Bethlehem 2000, the programme of work of the Committee, the Division for Palestinian Rights and the Department of Public Information and on the peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine.

The representative of Senegal, as well as the Permanent Observer of Palestine, made statements.

The Committee approved the draft resolutions.

Other matters

The Chairman made a statement.

The Permanent Observer of Palestine made a statement.

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Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment

COMMITTEE AGAINST TORTURE
Twenty-first session
United Nations Office at Geneva

WEDNESDAY, 11 NOVEMBER 1998

348th and 349th meetings

Consideration of reports submitted by States parties under article 19 of the Convention [4]

The Committee began its consideration of the initial report of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (CAT/C/16/Add.7). In accordance with rule 66 of the rules of procedure, representatives of the State party were present at the meetings, introduced the report submitted by their Government and replied to questions raised and comments made by the members of the Committee.

Organizational and other matters [2]

The Committee considered the item.

THURSDAY, 12 NOVEMBER 1998

350th and 351st meetings

Consideration of reports submitted by States parties under article 19 of the Convention [4]

The Committee continued its consideration of the initial report of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (CAT/C/16/Add.7).

The Committee also considered the initial report of Iceland (CAT/C/37/Add.2). In accordance with rules 66 of the rules of procedure, representatives of the State party were present at the meetings, introduced the report submitted by their Government and replied to questions raised and comments made by the members of the Committee.

Consideration of communications under article 22 [6]

The Committee considered the item in closed session.

SIGNATURES, RATIFICATIONS, ETC.

[MULTILATERAL TREATIES DEPOSITED WITH THE SECRETARY-GENERAL]

International Coffee Agreement, 1994. 30 March 1994

Extension to 30 September 1999 of the time-limit for the deposit of instruments of ratification, acceptance or approval for Governments which are applying the Agreement provisionally.

Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. Kyoto, 11 December 1997

Signature: United States of America (12 November 1998)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Arrangements will be made for the signing of the Tampere Convention on the Provision of Telecommunication Resources for Disaster Mitigation and Relief Operations by a number of countries on Tuesday, 17 November 1998, at 10 a.m. in room S-3205 (Treaty Section Signature Room).

All delegations intending to sign are requested to submit full powers in advance to the Treaty Section, Office of Legal Affairs (tel. 963-5048, fax 963-3693), for verification and to make appointments for signature.

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Presentation of a gift

On behalf of the United Nations, the Secretary-General will accept a gift from the Governments of Kenya, Namibia and Nepal on Wednesday, 18 November 1998, at 12 noon, at the north-west corner of the United Nations garden.

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Film screening

There will be a screening of the film entitled "Intimate Portrait: Bella Abzug", on Thursday, 19 November 1998, at 12 noon, in the Dag Hammarskjöld Library Auditorium. The screening is organized by the Division for the Advancement of Women, in cooperation with NGO Section of the Department of Public Information. Members of permanent missions, Secretariat staff, representatives of non-governmental organizations and the media are invited to attend.

COMMUNICATIONS TO THE EDITOR

Material for insertion in the *Journal* should be addressed to room S-2940
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Office opens at 4.30 p.m.

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